

PM 7/6/44 GOP Executive Council Loaded With Isolationists

Friends of McCormick, Hoover Have Dewey's Enthusiastic Approval

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN

The Col. McCormick-Herbert Hoover stranglehold on the Republican Party was more apparent than ever today with the appointment of a new GOP Executive Committee whose members, with a few minor exceptions, represent the isolationist, anti-labor views of the Republican Old Guard.

The 15-man committee, appointed by Herbert Brownell, Jr., GOP National Chairman, will be the top party group assigned to run the Dewey-Bricker presidential campaign. Brownell who appointed the committee with Gov. Dewey's "enthusiastic" approval, said the membership represented "the views of all leaders of the party."

As a sop to Wendell L. Willkie, who has so far declined to come out for Dewey, Brownell appointed Ralph H. Cake, Willkie's manager in his unsuccessful campaign for the GOP 1944 presidential nomination and Sen. Sinclair Weeks (R., Mass.), a Willkie supporter, who last week was ousted as the Republican Party's treasurer by the Dewey-McCormick forces.

Willkie Resists

The committee's composition is believed to have stiffened Willkie's resistance against peace moves by Dewey supporters. Willkie himself would not comment on these reports except to deny a Dewey-planted story out of Albany that he had conferred with Rep. Clare Luce, a self-appointed dove of peace. Willkie said he hadn't seen Mrs. Luce in three months.

At a press conference yesterday afternoon at the GOP national headquarters in the Hotel (Theodore) Roosevelt, Brownell, who earlier had identified Cake and Weeks as representing the Willkie viewpoint, declined to say which of the 15 Committeemen represented McCormick's views.

Following Dewey's cue last week when he was asked if he welcomed McCormick's support ("I shall welcome the editorial support of every good American," said Dewey) Brownell ducked by saying the

committee members "are all Republicans enthusiastic for the election of our ticket."

Committee Members

"Is Col. McCormick's viewpoint represented in the committee?" he was asked.

"I don't care to add anything on

that subject," Brownell replied with a smile.

Examination of the list discloses that the committee is loaded with two Republican isolationist Congressmen, one known supporter of Col. McCormick's candidate for Republican National Chairman, Werner Schoeder and friends of Herbert Hoover and Alf M. Landon:

¶ Rep. Clarence Brown, a leading Bricker supporter, has an isolationist voting record in Congress. He voted against Lend-Lease, against liberalizing provisions of the Neutrality Act a month before Pearl Harbor, against extension of the draft, against the Price Control bill, against the \$67,200 limitation on salaries, against the Federal soldiers' vote bill, for continuing the Dies Committee and for overriding FDR's veto on the anti-labor Smith-Connally Act.

¶ Mrs. Chris Carlson of Minnesota voted for the election of Werner Schroeder, Col. McCormick's mouthpiece, for Republican National Chairman two years ago. Schroeder, who was elected last week as GOP vice-chairman with Dewey's approval, was defeated for chairman primarily because of Willkie's opposition.

¶ Col. R. B. Creager of Texas is an old friend of Hoover and McCormick. At the 1940 GOP presidential convention, Creager, one of the Old Guard, was floor leader for Sen. Robert A. Taft, the party's ideologist of isolationism, who wanted the nomination. Creager is now said to be involved in the current "electoral college vote conspiracy" with anti-FDR Democrats to throw Texas to Dewey.

¶ Barak T. Mattingly of St. Louis is tied up with Edgar M. Queen chairman of the board of Monsanto Chemical Co., a leading Republican mossback, a Willkie opponent and a member of the National Assn. of Manufacturers board of directors. Queeny is an isolationist and strictly anti-labor.

¶ Rep. Carroll Reece of Tennessee, close to Hoover, voted against Lend-Lease, against extension of the draft, against the Price Control bill, against needed appropriation for soil conservation and rural electrification, against the Federal Soldiers' Vote bill, against the \$67,200 limitation on salaries.

¶ Harry Darby of Kansas is one of Alf Landon's closest friends.